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gaged in the most amicable discussion, about the state of the weather, perhaps, but carried on with a vigor that suggests they may come to blows at any moment.

Trick Languages

Some examples were obtained of very interesting trick languages used for amusement and for concealment of meanings. One of these is known on Nukuhiva as *uhi tua*. The term *uhi tua* is derived from a sub-group of the once powerful tribe inhabiting Haa Paa valley, who originated this method of talking. It is said that it was taught to two women by a bird, called by the natives *komako*, that sings very prettily in the tree tops, and that groups of men, women, and children used to gather at times to amuse themselves by talking the *uhi tua*. It was understood only by the inhabitants of Haa Paa valley. Fortunately examples of it have been obtained from a man living in Taiohae, who is said to be the last survivor of this once very powerful tribe. It will be seen that the principle of the language is simple—namely, the transposition of the syllables of words, with the occasional insertion of vowels to make the flow of speech rhythmic. A few examples will suffice. *Pehea oe* (Where are you going?) is in the *uhi tua* language, *hepea oe. Te nei kenana* (this man) is *te eni nekaka; tenei ehua* (this year) is *te eni nehua; Pakahio* (old woman) is *kapaiho; poiti* (child) is *hopiti; pahoe* (maid) is *hapoe; ka'oha* (greeting) is *hakoa; mea meitai* (good!) is *e ema hemiati; mea hauhau* (bad) is *me ahuahu. Te nei enana no Haa Paa* (this man from Haa Paa) is *te eni ne kaka no Piu Aha; e tuki tenei vehine te popoi* (this woman is pounding *popoi*) is *e kuti te eni hevine te hohopi.*

There is another trick language which is talked at the present time in Taiohae, but it is said to be quite old. It seems probable that the basis of this is an attempt to imitate the sound of Tahitian. It is called *e'o hu'i* (language turned over, or upside down). *Pehea oe?* (Where are you going?) is *Peheiherea ooioroe. E he'e au i apai* (I am going for a walk) is *E tai taraha ovai varau apaiparai. Mea nui te ua* (It is a rainy day) is *Menui murui teui urua. Ka'oha oe* (Greeting to you) is *kaoioroha ooioroe. Ihea tu'u pae?* (Where is my hat?) is *Iheiherea tu'u paeparae. Ua hemo au i te mate* (I am ill) is *Ua heiheremoovaivarau i te maimarate. Ena to au kahu hou* (That is my new dress) is *Enainara touaivarau kaikarahu hoihorou. Aki me'ie i te a nei* (It is clear to-day) is *Aiaraki meiirie teaneinerei.*

A few words of another trick language of this same kind that used to be talked in Puamau were learned. There, *Apuhi taua i te pake* (Let's have a smoke) was *Vara taua tuvata. Kaoha* (greeting) was *karohati. Ehoa* (friend!) was *e hopore.*